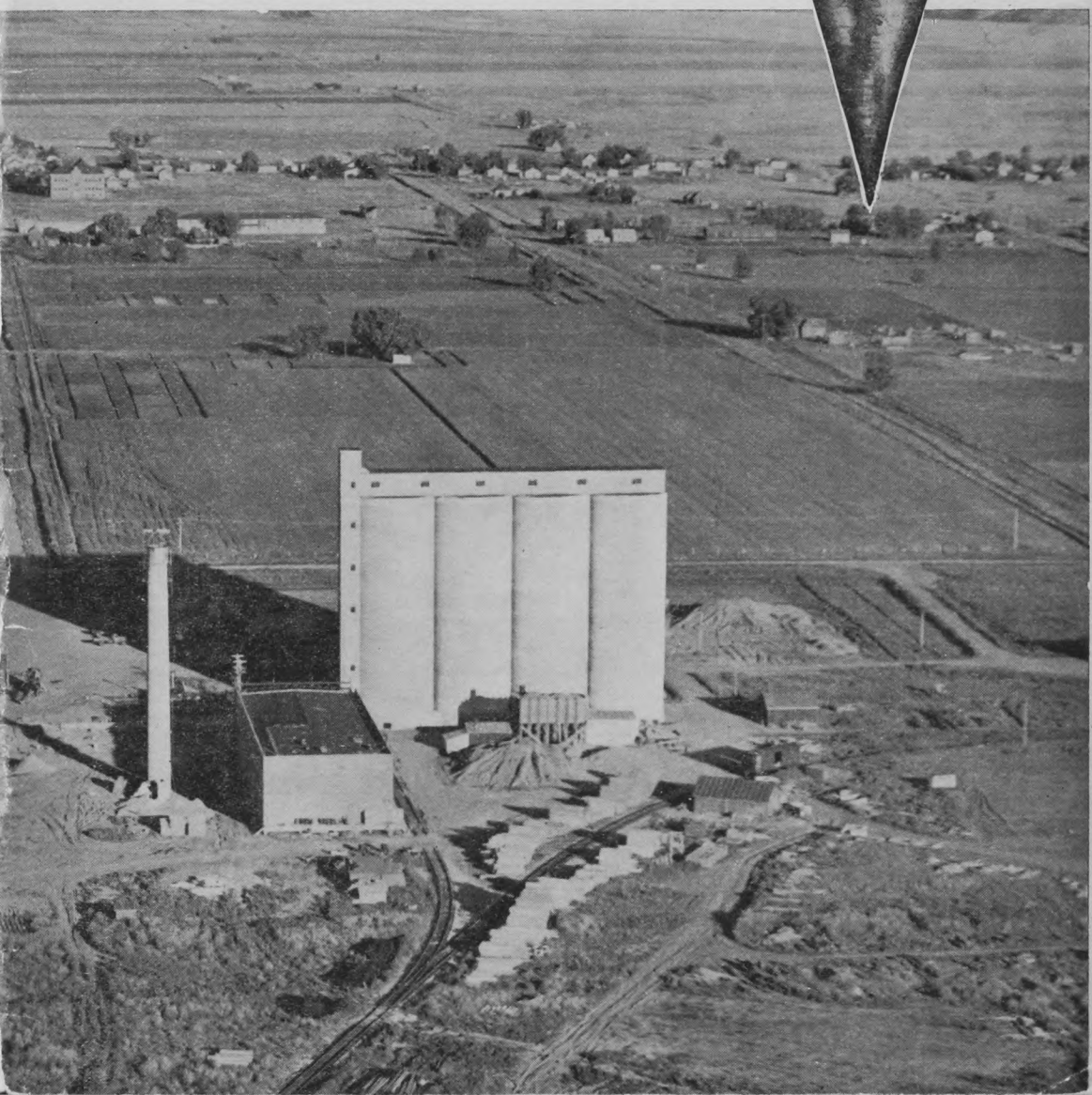


H
0171-20-01
1948

Silver to Sunshine





A catastrophe affects some people like a sudden stroke of good fortune. They come to life and demonstrate unsuspected abilities.



SILVER SUNSHINE

Volume XII

Fall Edition, 1948

EDITORIAL

Fall and Summer Preparation

ALBERTA BEET GROWERS SET THE PACE

Observation of farm practices common among Alberta Beet Growers prove the statement that beet farmers hereabouts are on the front row, so to speak, when it comes to beet land preparation for the new crop.

SWEET CLOVER

Some 4,000 to 5,000 acres of sweet clover has been plowed under and in most cases levelled and prepared for irrigation. Most of this land will receive a second plowing after it is irrigated.

LEVELLING

Experience has proved that now is the best time to do next spring's levelling. Growers are busy in every district, pulling off hills, and giving the beet land its preliminary levelling.

MANURING

It was an inspiration to note a farmer north of Coaldale following the manure spreader with the plow. Manure plowed under the same day is probably two or three times more valuable than plowing weeks after it is taken from the corrals.

IRRIGATION

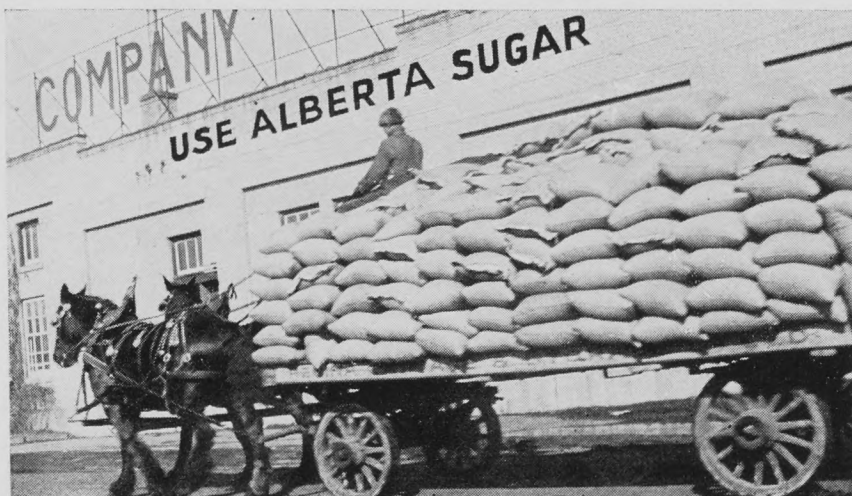
Running water around a steep hill is no joke but it's being done all through the season in the beet districts. The kinks some of these farmers use are original to say the least. I noted where one farmer is moving his ditch higher and higher. He will soon have the hill down to his size and in the valley.

A United States man remarked a few days back that people have lost the art of real living. Well maybe! but the man who, while working long hours to get ahead, will at the same time build and maintain a beautiful home with clean and neat surroundings, certainly has made a start toward real living.

Why Not 6000 lbs. Sugar Per Acre On Your Farm In 1949?

T. George Wood, General Manager

There are some farmers in every Alberta district who make this production goal in every year—not always the same farmer, or the same farm, but the same names reach the honor rolls, with satisfying regularity.



Seven Acres Of Alberta Sugar On One Load.

All of us are in the joint business of making sugar, yet the average field production is far short of the top target set above. Did you figure your sugar per acre for 1947? What will it be for 1948?

Alberta averages were:		% Performance
1947	3403 lbs. per acre	57%
1946	3584 lbs. per acre	60%
1945	3291 lbs. per acre	55%

It takes 17 tons of 18% sugar beets per acre, to produce a little over 6000 lbs. sugar per acre. We may not all reach the class of Ivan Harris of Taber who raised 22.6 tons average on 30.5 acres in 1947 and averaged over 20 tons per acre for the last eight years, but for each and every one of us there is a lot of room on the top brackets.

Farmers are entitled to sell their production and services at a profit. Every farmer is working honestly and constructively on a level and in competition with his neighbor. Profits, therefore, come the

hard way until he takes his yields out of the marginal class, as inefficiency resulting in low production on a farm or in business cannot demand a profit.

It was most encouraging to see the interest of Beet Growers when over 600 attended the field day at the Experimental Farm on August 14th. Here were demonstrated the machines, and methods that could give 100% results.

Sugar makes a splendid contribution to the food needs of our country, and of the world. During recent weeks and months there has been an almost complete reversal of sentiment in the sugar world as far as the need for, and prices of our commodity.

While Cuba has produced the largest sugar crop in history, prices have not been unduly depressed, because of the large quantities used in consuming countries, many of them supplied by the U. S. Government, Occupation Forces, and also by the operations of the Marshall Plan.

In Canada, supplies of sugar, outside beet production are still controlled by the Government Sugar Administration. Prices have been completely stable since the rise permitted in November 1947. Demand has been the greatest in Canadian history. All of which results in the highest price ever paid to the beet farmer, per ton of beets.

Alberta has every prospect now, after a somewhat discouraging spring, of a good average crop of sugar beets, and a production of sugar, that will find a ready market, at a stable price.

The two operating factories at Raymond and Picture Butte, have been placed in readiness for processing and should make a record of economical extraction of sugar. We are also pushing work, with determination, at the new factory under construction at Taber.

An individual beet grower's participation in the final results of 1948 production, while not entirely under his control, yet will largely depend on his wise use of growing methods, and harvesting management, in the next two months. There is yet time to add an extra 1000 lbs. of sugar per acre to your crop. Addition of timely water, complete salvage of all beets, with prompt delivery of fresh crisp roots, to the factory, will be the answer.

Emerson, the great philosopher said, "Around every circle, another can be drawn, proving that every end, is also a beginning;" an inspiration, this means. Don't give up—try a better way.

So even more, a full determination to use every technique and method devised by farmers, field staffs, experimental workers and others for beet production, will place you several notches up the 6000-lb. scale beam of the 1949 Sugar Acre.

The 1948 Crop

This spring's weather really laid it on thick. A resident of the Chinook district advises that 3" of rain fell in one night in their district. We would have been pleased to get it over with, but hardly that fast. The wet spring did cost a great deal of tonnage. Nevertheless, the beets have recovered very well and we will have a good crop.

Losses from flooding have been serious to those few farmers who were hit so hard but the crop as a whole will work out very well.

CONTROL FACTORS

The wet springs have accentuated the need for tools to thoroughly areate the beets and eliminate crusts. This spring it was found that a harrow did a better job than a cultivator, where fields were clean and reasonably level. The finger weeder was also used to a good advantage. This is a low cost tool that should be used more, particularly on small weeds and until beets are thinned.

DAMPING OFF

Where blackroot or damping off disease is damaging the crop, areation of the soil is the immediate control. Where damping off is prevalent without special reason, growers should report the condition to the fieldman. Seed and soil treatments do afford successful control.

Sugar Beets On Montana Reclamation Projects

Sugar Beets on 14% of the Land Pay 40% of the Income.

In the Federal Reclamation project in Montana, Region 6, East of the Continental Divide, 14% of the land growing sugar beets made up 40% of the gross income from this year's farming operations. This is from an article by Kenneth Vernon, Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Billings, Montana, in "Through the Leaves."

He states that farmers on the Milk River, Sun River, lower Yellowstone, Huntley, Buffalo Rapids First Division, Buffalo Rapids second Division and intake projects have 212,112 acres of pay-class lands under cultivation. The gross value of all crops produced was \$11,657,-301.15. The acreage planted in sugar beets was 29,535 acres. The average return per acre from sugar beets was \$159.02, almost three times the average gross rate of \$54.96 for all crops produced on the acres under cultivation.

Wife (upon receiving a birthday present from her husband):
"How nice, darling. Just what I need to exchange for what I want."
—Buzz Saw, Kansas City, Missouri.

Too Soon - Just Right - To Irrigate

Milo C. Vance



Results of Irrigation and Ample Fertility

Experience and experiment are fast justifying the contention that sugar beets made to suffer through lack of early water, likewise suffer in total production. Throughout the district there are still some ardent proponents of the philosophy of holding back the initial irrigation until the beet has lengthened out . . . gone down in search of needed water. They point out that in adhering to this policy, they have had successful tonnages. This may well be true, just as the early water might well have aided in an even greater tonnage.

• Research at the Dominion Experimental Station, and also at the State Agricultural College, Logan, has assured us that the first irrigation is the most important to the sugar beet and must not be

neglected or too long delayed. If any irrigation is to be missed, let it be a later one, says Dr. Haddock of the college. However, it is our early water which is most abundant, and need not thus be cut short.

Irrigation of sugar beets should be so timed that the plants do not suffer for water at any period of growth. They should be irrigated whenever the leaves start to turn dark green, or to lose their fresh green appearance. When leaves fail to recover readily in the evening from mid-day wilting, water should be immediately applied.

The overhead sprinkling system, as demonstrated at the recent Experimental Farm Field Day, might suggest how some of the ills connected with irrigation may be better controlled. But whatever the method used, a light application of evenly distributed early irrigation water will keep the beets thriving and this is most essential. Let the irrigation be timely, but not too late—**BE PROMPT TO IRRIGATE.**

New Developments In Agricultural Research

F. H. PETO, *Director Agricultural Research.*

Agricultural research is progressing at such a tempo at the present time that it is difficult to keep up with developments which might affect sugar beet production. We will mention five which have definite promise:

1. *Breeding sugar beet varieties with single-germ instead of multiple-germ seed balls.*

Breeding now in progress at the Experiment Station of the Great Western Sugar Company at Longmont, Colorado, and at our own companies Agricultural Research Department in Vancouver indicates that new commercial strains may soon be available that do not have more than one or two germs per seed ball. Such strains will not have to be segmented which is a wasteful and damaging process.

2. *Decortication instead of segmentation.*

Segmentation has many advantages, but it wastes up to 60% of the seed and many germs are damaged. A milder form of seed processing called decortication is becoming increasingly popular. This process rubs off the excess cork with less damage to the germ and less waste of seed. Your company is now building a Blackwelder decorticator and this method will be thoroughly tested this year.

3. *Combining fertilizing with irrigation.*

New techniques are being developed to apply both nitrogen and phosphorous fertilizers in the irrigation water. This could prove a cheap and effective manner of feeding sugar beet plants.

4. *A new synthetic nitrogen fertilizer.*

Preliminary experiments with a urea-formaldehyde fertilizer (Urea-form) show that this fertilizer releases the nitrogen very slowly as required by the plant and because of its low solubility cannot be washed away by irrigation and heavy rains. Such a fertilizer might be safely applied in large quantities with the beet seed drill.

5. *New hybridizing technique.*

The sugar beet breeders have long been jealous of the corn breeders in producing high yielding hybrid corn. One-

hundred percent hybrid beet seed could not be obtained because the beet flower could not be emasculated as easily as corn where the tassels could easily be cut off. The recent development of *male-sterile* lines of sugar beet makes possible the production of 100% hybrid seed.

We must not let the mass of new developments proceeding from Research Institutes and Experiment Stations mask the fact that great improvements in sugar beet culture have been and will be developed through the ingenuity of experimentally minded beet growers. For example increased productivity and reduced costs can result from the use of the finger weeder and harrow in place of the cultivator. It does not need a research man to evolve such new practises. Visits to the Experimental Farm beet plots and discussions with Company and Government agriculturists are recommended, but growers can add a lot of interest and obtain practical benefits by doing a bit of experimenting on their own.

Withering Fertilizer

Where manure is left exposed to the weather, considerable fertilizing material is lost by leaching. It is sufficiently valuable to justify proper protection. The liquid portion is richer in nitrogen and potash than the solid matter and it is immediately available for plant use. When it cannot be protected, spread it on the land, winter or summer, as soon as possible.

The importance of saving the liquid in manure is still further shown by analysis made at the Massachusetts Experiment Station. The drainage from gutter behind milch cows was found to contain, in 1,000 lbs.: 932 lb. water; 9.8 lb. nitrogen; 2.4 lb. phosphoric acid; and 8.8 lb. potash. Drainage from liquid manure, 1,000 lbs., contained: 820 lb. water; 15.0 lb. nitrogen; 1.0 lb. phosphoric acid; 49.0 lb. potash.

Manure exposed for six months lost by leaching from 42 to 62 per cent in horse manure and 30 per cent in cow manure. When small quantities of land plaster were mixed with the manure the losses were considerably less.

Fertilizing Value Per Ton of Various Bedding Material

Ton of Material	Lbs. of Nitrogen	Lbs. of Phosphoric Acid	Lbs of Potash
Wheat Straw	9.6	4.4	16.4
Oat Straw	14.4	3.6	23.0
Rye Straw	11.2	5.1	18.1
Barley Straw	11.4	5.0	23.5
Pea Straw	20.8	7.0	19.8

Irrigation By Sprinkling

During the summer of 1948 two irrigation sprinkler systems were installed in the sugar beet area of Alberta. Irrigation sprinklers are used successfully in parts of the United States. Their use in Alberta appears promising.

Advantages claimed for sprinkle irrigation are as follows:

1. It facilitates irrigating up small seeded crops.
2. It provides a uniform distribution of water on rough hilly land.
3. It promises to alleviate crusted soil conditions.
4. It permits a better control of the amount of water applied.
5. It facilitates the irrigation of dry hills.
6. It lessens the danger of waterlogging soil through excessive irrigation.



A Sprinkler System in Action. Taber Dried Pulp Warehouse Construction in Background

There are, however, several obstacles to the use of irrigation sprinklers in Alberta. Our present irrigation distribution systems are designed to provide each grower with an intermittent flow of a fairly large volume of water. Irrigation sprinklers require a continuous flow of a smaller volume of water. Many of the lateral ditches have an inadequate capacity to supply some of the growers with a continuous flow and to supply, at the same time, other growers with their accustomed intermittent flow.

An obstacle to achieving one of the advantages of sprinklers is the late spring date at which water is available. The repair of irrigation structures usually delays the delivery of water and thus minimizes the advantage which might accrue from the early irrigation-up of crops.

One of the most important factors concerning irrigation sprinklers is cost, both capital and operational. Sprinkler irrigation systems are very flexible. They can be adapted to almost any condition. The care exercised in planning and laying out a system to avoid the purchase of unnecessary equipment will have an important influence on the capital cost. No accurate figures are available on the cost of operation in Alberta.

Although the initial cost of the equipment may appear to be high, there are certain conditions which might justify the expenditure. In such cases the value of sprinkler irrigation will be determined, not so much by comparing operation costs with those of surface irrigation, but, by comparing crop yields and soil conditions resulting from the quality of irrigation by sprinkler and surface methods.

The greatest advantage of sprinkler irrigation would appear to be on rough hilly land and on land becoming waterlogged through over-irrigation. On lands with slopes ideal for irrigation, there may be no difference in yield between crops irrigated by sprinkler and surface methods.

There are two general types of sprinkler systems. The systems now being tried out in Alberta are of the rotating sprinkler type. The other general type discharges the water through perforated pipe. Each type has both advantages and disadvantages.

Irrigation sprinklers have been brought only recently into Alberta. They show considerable promise under certain conditions. They are being tried out. Too little is known of their cost, their cost of operation, or their effect on crop yields to make definite recommendations at the present time.

HAD 'IM

The gentleman's attitude was polite but firm. "I'm sorry," he told the young woman who was selling tickets for the charity concert, "but I won't be able to attend the concert. It's for a most worthy cause, however, and I assure you I shall be with you in spirit."

"Fine, exclaimed the young woman. "Now where would you like to have your spirit sit? The tickets are \$1 and \$2."

The gentleman meekly replied: "I'll take a \$2 one please."—
The Weekly Letter, Charleston, West Virginia.

Spring Mechanization

E. Bennion, Agricultural Superintendent, Picture Butte

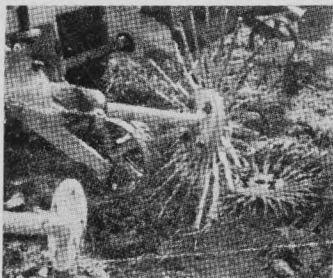
The mechanization of the sugar beet crop falls naturally into two principle divisions; the spring work and the harvesting. The fall work is quite satisfactorily taken care of since the introduction of loaders, and more recently the successful type harvesters which are being used. The spring work, however, is lagging behind, especially in this district and is true also in all districts.

754 acres were replanted in the Lethbridge Northern district this spring due almost entirely to the extreme stormy spring causing serious crusting. The seed would germinate, reach the crust and die, being unable to penetrate it. Much of this loss could have been avoided if these fields had been watched more closely and the crust broken in the early stages of germination.



The Finger Weeder

used crossways in fields will eliminate weeds and will be of great help to labor in the thinning operation. These finger weeders will be available for purchase next spring, if desired. Some growers used this weeder as many as three times on the same field.



Several machines were tried out here last spring in an endeavour to lessen the work of thinning and leave a better stand. The machines used were the Harrow, Side Delivery Rake and the Finger or Pencil Weeder. This latter implement is fast becoming common in the beet areas and is giving splendid results. It will not only eliminate crusting if used early and timely but if

Another finger weeding implement showing promise is furnished as an attachment to the cotton chopper where it replaces the knives, doing the same work almost as well as the harrow type finger weeder. The accompanying illustration on the left shows the unit in action.

Choice of finger equipment necessary depends upon the size of beets and the amount of weed growth to be eliminated.



Cook Brothers and Their Four Row Dixie

On the right is the machine working on the farm of B. L. Medve where labor refused to do the field for \$18 per acre. Seven acres were blocked at the price of \$6.50 per acre and the labor was more than pleased with the help they received from the machine operation. The thinner did about 61 acres even though it was late in arriving.

The labor cost was not lessened very much by the machine because whole seed was used in almost all the fields blocked and the beets were quite large. I feel sure that with segmented seed planted

Pictured here is a four row cotton chopper mounted on the front of a tractor owned by the Cook Brothers at Picture Butte. Some of the advantages of this machine are:

1. One man can operate it whereas the old two-row style required four men for the same number of rows.

2. The operator has full view of entire operation, depth of cutting, position of the knives to row and can work more efficiently where everything is in full view.



B. L. Medve's Dixie Working Beets

six or seven pounds per acre, thinning and labor cost can be reduced by at least one-half. However, a good stand is essential with these blocking machines.



Alex Bodie Jr. taking the Backache out of Thinning with an Eversman Blocker.

The EVERSMAN Blocker was used in Alberta for the first time this spring. Strips amounting to four acres were blocked in the 37 acre field of Alex Bodie and Son of Coaldale. The field was planted with seven pounds of segmented seed per acre and a good stand was secured. The land was crusted, however, and it was estimated 15% of the stand was lost by the machine pulling the beets out with the crust.

A Western Land Roller was then used after the initial trial. The machines did more efficient work and a better stand was left. Three different crews of labor thinned the remainder of the field and left a stand of 92%, 72% and 85% or an average of 83%.

No thinning was done on machine blocked strips but was combined with the hoeing operation and cost \$11.00 per acre, leaving \$7.50 for the machine work. The workers considered it took them twice as long to do the machine blocked rows as compared to ordinary hoeing on the balance of the field. This would still leave a strong margin to cover the most of machine operation which in connection with the better stand and the fact that the beets were not stunted by exposure, will undoubtedly produce an equal, if not better yield.

Some advantages of Eversman Blockers are:

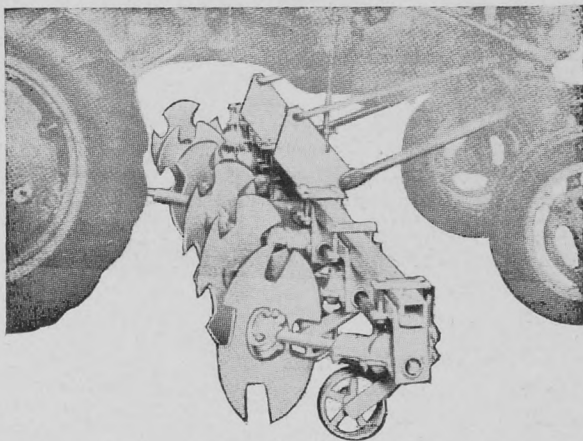
1. Individual gauge wheel for each cutting disc results in accurate control of cutting depth.
2. Block spacing is varied by simply shifting the tractor gears. It is easy to operate at normal cultivating speed.
3. The blocker does not undercut. Weed growth is not left between the blocks but is placed in the centre between the rows.
4. The Eversman Blocker has a positive drive from the power take-off.

5. The machine cost \$268.00 delivered here this year which is next to a cultivator for capital outlay.

6. Fits all cultivator type tractors.

7. It has two sets of self-cleaning cutting discs furnished to meet different stand conditions.

8. It is simple in construction, easy to attach and handy to operate.



Cutting Units of the Eversman Blocker in Profile.

Each Beet A Pumping Plant

Soil moisture enters the root system of the sugar beet, then moves up through the plant and goes out through the leaves. There are countless tiny holes in the leaves that work like pumps. All day long the leaves are "pumping" water from the soil into the air. In hot weather the soil moisture is "pumped out" very quickly. When beet leaves wilt or collapse, it means that the "pumping system" has slowed down or practically stopped.

The "pumping system" does a lot more than just pumping water up through the plant. Soil foods are dissolved in the water that moves up through the root and leaves. These soil foods make a kind of "soup" that the beet "eats". The beet cannot "eat" dry food. In other words, when a beet is wilting, it means not only that "pumping" is slowing down, but it means also that "eating" is slowing down. When a wilted beet has to wait two or three days for water, it is much like a steer in a feed lot having to wait two or three days for feed.

Therefore, it is very important to look ahead and prepare to get water on the beets before wilting takes place. Hot weather is wonderful growing weather for the beet crop—and the farmer who is able to keep an adequate amount of moisture in the soil at all times is pointing his crop toward maximum tonnage.—G. W. Sugar Co.

They Have Chosen Canada

J. G. Snow

Two healthy factors have combined to bring about a need for continued labor movements. They are a gradual but steady expansion of beet production and the progress of former immigrant laborers to tenants and owners until at the present time over one-third of the present 1,400 Alberta beet growers got their start in Canada as immigrant beet labor, thus bearing out the fact that our beet labor are remunerated on a par with or above any beet growing area in Canada or United States.

The latest movement, still in progress, to care for present needs, started in the spring of 1947 when 300 Polish war veterans were brought to Canada from Italy under auspices of the Dominion Department of Labor for employment by our growers as beet labor.



Newcomers and Oldsters Contribute Their Labors In 1948.

1. B. Baerg, D. P. Mennonite family.
2. N. Sereda family, Ukranian refugees.
3. Akizuki family, seven years in beets.
4. Korosec family, exiles from Yugoslavia.

Subsequent movement in June, 1948, saw approximately 600 workers from European Displaced Persons camps, over half of them family groups, brought forward under the same auspices at the request of and in co-operation with the growers. This movement consisted

chiefly of political refugees from the Russian Ukraine, Poland and Yugoslavia. In addition approximately 200 immigrant workers in family groups originating principally in Holland, Belgium and Scandinavia have come forward through regular immigration channels under direction of various settlement agencies and are now located on district beet farms.



Some Labor Houses that Beets Have Built

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Angelo Boras | 3. Central Farms | 5. D. Chenery. |
| 2. John Schulz | 4. Frank Haz | 6. I. and R. Habijanac |

These people have all been settled on the basis of one year's employment in agriculture, the backbone of which is the beet labor contract. Growers in all cases are required to furnish housing as part of the contract at no added cost, to the contractor. Growers on the whole have discharged this responsibility well as evidenced by the foregoing pictures snapped in the Lethbridge-Coaldale district.

Growers desiring to expand their present labor accommodation or wishing to erect new ones are invited to discuss their problem with their fieldman and get details of the Company's housing loan.

Both growers and workers appear to be well satisfied with the arrangement as it is working out and in most cases both parties are capably discharging their respective responsibilities.

Plans are under way looking forward to having sufficient additional labor brought forward to care for 1949. Anyone requiring labor for next spring should advise their fieldman early as preliminary arrangements must be completed this fall.

The Farm Home

R. B. Evanson

The farmers of Southern Alberta are most fortunate in having the wherewithal to establish good, comfortable, convenient and beautiful homes and farmsteads. Many realize this and as we look, we see evidence of their desire to make this manifest. However, on the other hand, we see many that have failed to realize the need of beautification, or have failed to plan and utilize the natural beauty that in most cases is available to them.



The Ranch Home of the Late W. H. McIntyre

The intention of this article is not to cover or provide all the phases or essential information required in planning, improving and beautifying farm homes because of its great scope, but to bring to each reader the realization that modern conditions now make it possible for each farmer through individual initiative and planning to have all the comforts, and by far, more natural beauty than his city neighbor.

It is through forethought and careful planning that the common mistake of haphazard development may be avoided and that labor saving, economy and lasting satisfaction is achieved. Observation shows us that the more common mistakes are inconvenient and unsightly arrangement of buildings and yards; inadequate water supplies and poor drainage; the wrong type of trees in the wrong places; too large a farm yard; thus making it a breeding ground for weeds.

Good and simple planning takes the long term view and provides the finished pattern in the years to come, for we all realize that, "Simplicity is beauty, and a thing of beauty is a joy forever".

Mostly on established farmsteads we become so familiar with our surroundings that we often fail to see possibilities of improvement. It is most often the case that things are not as handy, convenient, or pleasing as it could be. To improve this, a farmer should go about it as a factory manager would go about planning and repairing with the purpose of increasing and improving the efficiency of his plant. Sometimes outside observers can see needed improvements which are not noted in the everyday routine. The home is the headquarters of the whole farm enterprise. It should be convenient and pleasing to the eye. The buildings and yards can generally be rearranged for greater efficiency and appearance. Since pioneer days, mechanization has come to the fore, often leaving the old set-up entirely antedated for present requirements.

Although many general improvements could be made to the beautification of the farm home, it is most gratifying that we see in almost every section of Alberta, farms where forethought and careful planning have secured a high degree of convenience, comfort and beauty. This beauty and design reveals the culture, stability and prosperity that can be enjoyed in a free country where free thinking and development are encouraged.

Is Alkali A Problem On Your Farm?

Living as we are, in a semi-arid region, irrigation often poses the problem of alkali. Oftimes harmful soluble salts have accumulated. Seepage from canals and ditches coupled with the heavy land use of irrigation water often raises water tables. If soluble salts are present, they are carried toward the surface. We also find that movement of water through the soil to lower lying lands often results in outcroppings of alkali. In some areas the irrigation water often contains harmful concentrations of salt, but we are fortunate in not having this problem to contend with here in Alberta. Alkali from any source may accumulate to the point where crop production becomes unprofitable, if not impossible. *Prevention of accumulation is the best possible cure for alkali.*

Experience has shown reclamation of alkali lands to be a costly business. It requires investigation. Someone trained in management and drainage of the soil should be consulted. Their judgment as to the practicability and procedure is much better than that of the layman. Soil type, salts present and drainage possibilities are factors to be determined.

Prevention of occurrence, should be the foremost thought in our minds. The one best farmers cure, aside from drainage, is to grow a crop every year and use the water to wash out the salts. Sweet clover and sugar beets are the farmers' best crops to take up alkali.

Save The Sugar

A. W. HILL



Mechanical harvesters are making a rapid entrance into the harvesting picture. However, most of our beets will be harvested by hand this year and we should, therefore, keep sight of some important pointers in handling the crop.

The total sugar recovered is the primary factor to be considered. This is affected by the date of harvest and the conditions connected with the harvest. In the late season, growth tapers off in favor of sugar storage in the beet. Therefore, the starting date should be consistent with good yield, high sugar and a reasonable digging period. Inclement weather is always a factor but as a rule the harvest should be planned to be completed by October 25.

Ploughed or pulled beets lose weight rapidly. This loss is more rapid through the leaves than by exposure of the roots. Prompt piling, topping and hauling are the answers to delivery of beets with a minimum loss of weight. The loss is not only from less tonnage but we must remember that wilted, dry beets do not keep well in storage.

Exposure to frost should not be allowed as frozen beets in the storage pile cause much loss of sugar.

Care should be taken to deliver as little mud as is possible and beets that are free from trash and leaves. Otherwise spoilage and loss are certain.

Co-operation between the farmer and his labor and the Company coupled with close supervision will improve the condition of our delivered beets and will increase the return per acre to the farmer.

Indiana Farmsteads

Are farmers imitators or just plain jealous. I note, while viewing older district farms in United States many outstanding farmsteads, fine painted buildings, machinery all housed, no junk piles, fences trimmed or removed, grass in yards trimmed instead of weeds, and altogether very remarkable places.

Then most all neighboring farmers have similarly nice homes. A bridge or tree area is passed and the scene changes. There are buildings unpainted, yards littered and weeds much in evidence. Crop possibilities are quite as good as the first. Why the difference? CAN YOU ANSWER IT.—F. R. T.

Hubam Clover In Alberta



*Hubam Makes Exceptional Growth
In One Year*

Hubam Clover is an annual sweet clover. It has been grown in Alberta for three seasons on a more or less trial basis. Being an annual crop, this clover will lend itself to a shorter rotation—a feature which may be highly desired on some farms.

Planted early with grain, this clover, with proper moisture, will grow back making a good green manure for fall plowing program. Being an annual, it should not become a weed problem. Most farms need a rotation crop such as Hubam or some similar green manure. It is not unlikely that too much of our acreage is cropped into beets and grain without any form of organic manures being added.

To date our experience with this crop in this locality has been encouraging. Some plantings during the late, wet spring of 1948 did not emerge too well with consequent thin stands. However, other trials came through with nice stands being established and a rapid growth resulting. In a normal year, satisfactory stands can be acquired without difficulty along with subsequent adequate growth.

Hubam is fast becoming popular in other sugar beet growing areas similar to our own. We should continue to encourage this crop. It may fill an important roll in building up the fertility of our irrigated farms.

A lawyer was questioning a farmer about the truthfulness of a neighbor.

"Wal," said the farmer, "I wouldn't exactly say he was a liar, but I tell ye, when it comes time to feed his hogs, he has to git somebody else to call 'em for him."

LOOKING FORWARD

"Now go to school like a good boy and when you grow big like your daddy, then you can go on strike."—The Rotater, Abilene, Tex.

Twice Flooded Lands Yield 19 Tons of Beets Per Acre

On March 17, when the floods were at their highest level, the bank of a small river nearby burst, and all of the fen between it and the highlands was flooded by six feet of water.

The farmer in question got a boat next day and rowed all over his fields. The bank had been repaired and the last of the water pumped off the land by May 10. Five days later, on May 15, and early in the morning, he broadcast 3 cwt. per acre of a compound beet fertilizer and then duckfoot harrowed the muddy surface of $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres of this lately-flooded clayland.

That afternoon he drilled 15 lb. per acre of Sharpe's "Klein E" sugar beet seed, and before dark went over it with a Cambridge or creased roller. The width between rows was 17 in.

Two days later a leak took place in the river bank where it had been repaired, and the lower part of the field was again flooded for 24 hours. In spite of all this, the seed sown germinated and provided a full plant.

On June 1, he horse-shoed between the rows, and three days later, on June 3, he chopped out with 7-inch hoes and singled soon afterwards. On June 26 he cultivated 9 inches deep up the middle of each row. No other work was done on the beet in spite of the fact that in July the weeds—chiefly willow weed—were much thicker than he had ever known before. However, the beets grew so fast and so strong that they soon mastered the weeds.

The previous history of this field was: permanent pasture till three years ago, then potatoes fertilized by 10 cwt. per acre of a proprietary compound.

He commenced harvesting the beets off this $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres on October 7, and had completed deliveries by December 8.

The results was 105 tons 17 cwt. 3 qr. washed beet, or an average of $19\frac{1}{4}$ tons per acre with an average sugar content of 18.98 per cent. The writer has checked these calculations from the Ely factory returns and found them correct.—*British Sugar Beet Review*.

The above is the spirit that wins—growing beets or winning a war. Note the timing and fertilizer program.—Ed.

Soil, The Essence Of Life

Soil and life itself are in a way synonymous. Consequently, it is fitting to approach the study of the soil and its cultivation with due regard for the importance, dignity and beauty of the subject.

WHAT SOIL IS

Take a handful of good garden soil, place it in a pan and heat it. The moisture will evaporate and the soil will become dry. Continue the heating and it will smoke, finally sending off an odor of something burning. This is organic matter (either vegetable or animal life) or residue, or both. It is this organic matter that makes soil loose and mellow and more retentive of moisture.

MINERAL MATTER

Mineral matter does not burn. After the burning process, the matter remaining will be found similar to the particles in sand and sufficiently hard to scratch the polished surface of metal or glass.

Originally the dry surface of the earth was all mineral. The soil has been made from rocks, ground up by the action of flowing water; water expanding in freezing and breaking the rocks; monstrous glaciers moving forward with tremendous weight, grinding the rocks to powder; low forms of plants starting in crevices, first the lichens and mosses, followed by larger plants growing in the decayed remains of the others, mixed with particles of crushed rocks. The process continued progressively, great roots still further tearing the rocks asunder. Soft as a mushroom is, it has been known to raise a heavy flag in a stone walk several inches, showing the force of even so tender a plant.

The action of cold and heat played their parts in crumbling the rocks. Finally great trees were felled by the elements and these decaying added greatly to the surface soil. The foliage of trees and plants dropped annually, grasses and other plants grew and died; animal life appeared, died and decayed, the process continuing for ages, as in preparation by a wise Creator for the habitation of man, and animals were provided for his support and comfort.

PLENTY OF WARNING

The following notice was inserted in the columns of a country weekly: "Any one found near my chicken house at night will be found there in the morning."—The Amplifier, Mansfield, Ohio.

RELIABLE

"Anything which parents have not learned from experience, they can now learn from their children."—Weekly Wrotearies, Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada.

The Machine Harvest Prospectus

W. G. Smith

An increased number of machines will be used to harvest the 1948 beet crop. At least 65 new and 70 last year's machines, or a total of 135, are expected to be in operation this year.

If the 1948 performance is as good as that of the previous year, the 135 machines should harvest approximately 4,600 acres or 14½% of the total crop. The performance in 1947 was 2,250 acres or 7.69%.

It is possible that the 1948 performance may be better than that of 1947. In 1947, 66 machine averaged 34 acres each. This performance is low compared to the 50 and more acres obtained in many parts of the United States. In Alberta last year, the 33 best performing machine averaged 45 acres each while the other 33 machines averaged only 23 acres each. From the experience, in operating the machines and organizing the harvest, we can reasonably expect an increased performance per machine in 1948.



Harold Perry and His John Deere

In 1947 the distribution of machine harvest costs was as follows:

	Period of Depreciation		
	3 year	10 year	15 year
Labor	35.1%	40.1%	42.4%
Operation	8.4%	9.5%	10.1%
Basic Tractor Costs	8.1%	9.3%	9.8%
Basic Harvester Costs	48.4%	41.1%	37.7%

From the foregoing table it will be seen that the major items of expense are basic harvester costs and labor costs.

Basic harvester costs include interest, depreciation and repairs. Interest and depreciation are fixed annual charges, consequently, the greater the acreage harvested the lower the fixed charges per acre.

One method of reducing the cost of mechanical harvesting is to increase the acreage harvested. In some cases this is possible by doing custom work or by two or more growers working together.

Another important factor in costs is labor. Last year there was a great variation in labor costs. In some cases all the family were in the field although all may not have been required. The number of men needed will depend on field conditions and on the efficiency of the operator.

Under good conditions a number of John Deere owners operated with 3 men—1 operator, 1 truck driver, and 1 man trimming beets in the windrow as well as operating the loader. This year a number of fields have thin stands and under such conditions an extra man may be required for trimming.

Poor topping by the machine resulting from improper adjustment or thin stands increases the number of men required and also the labor costs.

Last year some operators of I.H.C. machines had insufficient hauling equipment. These machines were idle part of the time waiting for the truck to return from the beet receiving station. Unless beets are piled on the ground, two vehicles are necessary to keep the harvester busy.

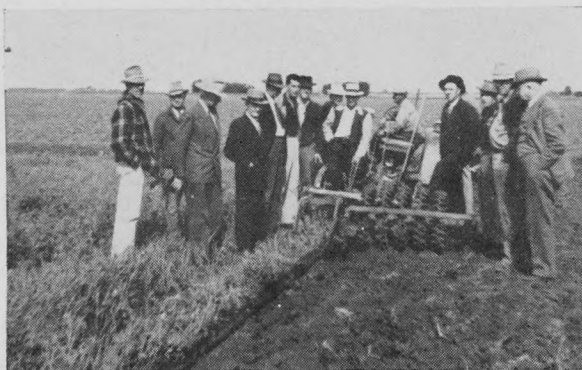
In some cases machines are used because no hand labor is available. In other cases they are used to reduce costs. Costs are an important factor in the successful adoption of machine harvesting. The users of machines will be asked for a report on the cost of their operations. This information is requested to provide the growers with information on costs. Your co-operation is requested for a more efficient harvest.

A generous tipper at a hotel found a new waiter serving him breakfast one morning and said: "Where's my regular waiter, that boy called Mose?"

New Waiter: "Boss, Mose ain't serving you any more. I won you in a crap game last night."

Nitrogen Must Be Added To Ponded Fields

The excessive rains which fell throughout May and June of this season have demonstrated very definitely that additional nitrogen must be applied where ponding has leached out surface plant food.



Plowing Clover for Humus, Nitrogen and More Tons

Observations on fields throughout all the districts have shown that where nitrogen has been present from straw butts, excessive application of barnyard manure, plowed down sweet clover or where nitrogen has been applied, the damage has not been excessive and beets have recovered rapidly. In fields, and particularly sandy loam fields where nitrogen was badly leached, beets have failed to grow and the results will be very disappointing. This situation is so clearly evident that in a similar condition growers would be well advised to watch their fields and investigate the necessity of applying a heavy application of nitrate fertilizer either by side-dressing fertilizer or applying with spraying machine in liquid forms. Many fields have now reached the point where humus content is so low that they cannot stand the heavy leeching caused by extremely wet conditions such as occurred this year.

Keeping humus content high by sweet clover rotation, or plenty of barnyard manure applied, is good insurance.

Three wholesalers, sleeping in a tent on a camping trip, were rudely awakened by a terrific crash not far away. "What was that—thunder or bombs?" asked one, wrought to atomic apprehension.

"Bombs," answered the second.

"Thank heaven for that!" chimed the third; "I thought we were going to have more rain!"

There's Something About A Fresh Turned Furrow

And Something More If It's Turned in The Fall.

Most of us are familiar with the benefits of fall plowing. It is worthwhile to plan fall operations in an effort to have more of this type of preparation. Except for extremely light sandy soils, there are many talking points in favor of fall plowing. This is especially so in the case of an early planted crop such as sugar beets. The soil is exposed to the weathering processes. It absorbs and holds the winter moisture. The peak load of springtime labor is better distributed. Moisture can be held near the surface.



This is a Case Where a Tip Over is Preferred

An ideal plan on stubble land is to disc, irrigate, manure and then fall plow. The field should be worked down if very rough to close out the air pockets. Fall plowed, irrigated land seldom blows. Such preparation will provide land on which a seedbed may quickly and easily be made the following spring. You may also well expect to grow a heavier crop of sugar beets, increasing your profits proportionately.

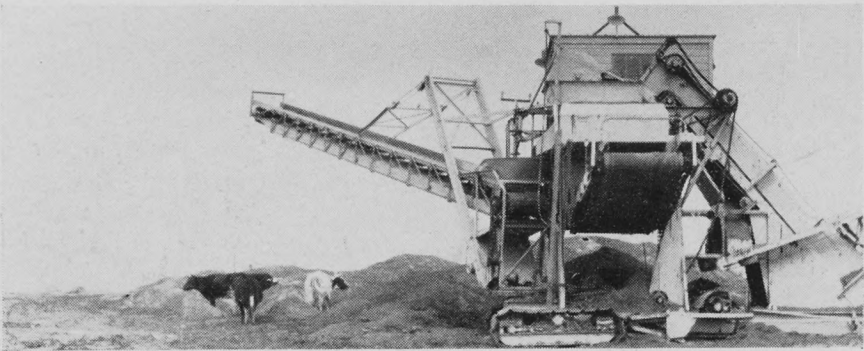
HIGH BARRIER

A serious impediment to marriage nowadays is the increasing difficulty of supporting the Government and a wife on one income."—The Rotater, Abilene, Texas.

The Dirt and Trash Problem

F. R. Taylor, Asst. General Manager

The use of loaders has increased the problem of handling excess dirt and trash with beets. This has become so serious that factory operations are slowed down and sometimes stopped as a *result of clods, rocks, and trash*. This is only one loss, however, as the first loss occurs when the grower spends extra time and money to haul this rubble. Then there is the loss arising from unloading interruptions, loss due to spoilage of beets and finally the slowing of cutting operations.



Tons of Dirt Screened Out on Second Time Through Piler

Tares have increased with loaders by an additional $1\frac{1}{2}\%$. This amounts to about 5,000 tons of extra dirt hauled and handled which carries through with the beets, and is in addition to the thousands of tons returned with the empties.

This dirt menace requires some thought being given toward eliminating the dirt at the source. Naturally in wet muddy seasons it becomes a question of special cleaning methods but, particularly in dry weather, every precaution should be taken in the loading operation.

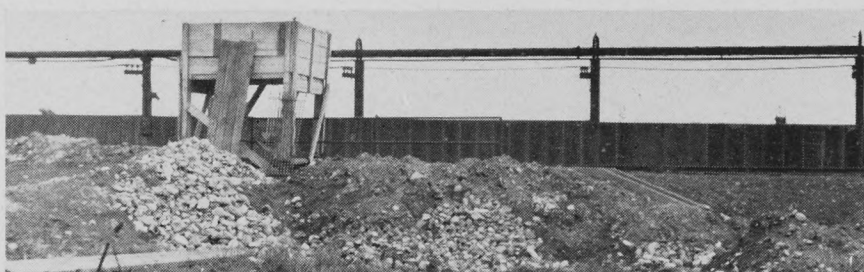
LOADER SUGGESTIONS

Here are a few ideas which will help to eliminate picking up clods and dirt with the loader.

1. A beater type loader does not load as many rocks and clods as a blade type.
2. V out sled should be weighted to run level and be wide enough to move top clods and trash away.

3. A shallow trench is best. A slight levelling is all that is required.
4. If ground is cloddy, some tool should precede the V out to smash the clods and mulch the soil. A heavy roller may be necessary but any tool that *will break* clods is the best tool.
5. Rolling the trench is subject to result obtained. If surface soil is mulched, it would be advisable, but if only a deeper trench results, it would not be justified.

A wide, shallow trench, free from clods and trash is the desired aim. Use every ingenious method to keep rubbish and clods from going through with the beets.



Rocks From West Hopper Cars at Factory

The pictures shown here indicate the problem at the factories. Stones sometimes of questionable size come through with the beets. They plug the flumes and slow beet movement and cause slow operation and extra expense. The dirt accumulation acts quite the same. A small amount is not too serious, but large quantities spoil beets in storage, and in addition to slowing operations, plug up sewers and drainage basins.

Get on the other side of the fence and look at the dirt and rock problem from both sides. When you see the Factory Superintendent's side as well as your own, we are sure you will do your best to leave the rocks and clods at home.

QUALIFIED

Foreman (on excavation job): "Do you think you are fit for really hard labor?"

Applicant: "Well, some of the best judges in the country have thought so."—The Rotater, Abilene, Texas.

600 Attend Sugar Beet Field Day

The annual Field Day of the Sugar Beet Growers was held at the Dominion Experimental Station, Lethbridge, Saturday, August 14th.

Commencing at 1:00 p.m., the visitors were shown the various projects which are under study at the station. This included negative weed control results from the use of 2-4-D, common salt and a combination of herbicide and fuel oil.



Farmers gather to view and discuss Sugar Beet Culture and Rotation at the Lethbridge Experimental Station's Annual Field Day.

The use of mechanical thinners was also demonstrated on late planted beets and also the results of thinning this spring's crop. The Eversman blocker was shown, also cultivator cross-blocking tools and the finger weeder.

Harvesting machines were on hand for observation, consisting of beater toppers, the Robecco and Sam 'N Andy toppers and loaders; also International and John Deere.

Under the fertility section, the visitors were taken over the sweet clover and alfalfa rotations which are carried on in connection with the use of barnyard manure and commercial fertilizers. These plots have been in operation for many years and the fertilizing results proved interesting while effects of the various rotations were strikingly evident.

Rotation "U" consisting of an eight year program of grain, alfalfa and sugar beets and the use of fertilizer was also visited. The overhead irrigation system was explained and demonstrated by representatives of the manufacturers and the growers had the opportunity of seeing first hand, the actual operation of this unit.

A general survey of all other features of the farm was given which included their alfalfa varieties and particularly their breeding program to develop wilt resistance strains.

The weather was ideal and the large crowd of approximately 600 felt that it was very much worthwhile. Visitors included representatives of the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company from Montana as well as some from as far away as California who had heard of the demonstration, and a goodly number of local people not directly connected with sugar beets.

Is Your Yield Above Average?

From 1925 to 1947, the yield of sugar beets in Alberta varied from a low average of 7.25 tons per acre to a high 14.10 average. It is obvious that many, seven, eight and nine ton crops have been and are still being produced. It is likewise as obvious that such yields offer little in the way of profits. Some of our growers produce yields that are fully double the figures given above. With overhead costs about even, it is easy to see that this margin spells success and prosperity.

In a general way the factors that make for high acre yields are controllable, thus making increased tonnage a possibility for every farmer. Desirable rotations and management in building up the fertility of our farms are "musts". Proper care in seed bed preparation, timely irrigations and cultivations are important pointers that will make our low yields higher.

A wide margin of profit in our farming operations usually makes for success. It pays well to plan very carefully for *more tons per acre*.

Ontario Drainage Systems

The writer, while visiting the Townline and Whitebread districts of the Ontario beet fields was advised that they paid from \$2.00 to \$6.00 per acre per year to maintain drainage systems. This is, of course, in addition to capital outlay.

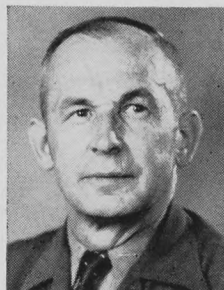
They lay 4" tile drains about five feet deep six rods apart and pump the runoff from large canals into the river. Judging from the remarkable crops of hybrid corn, grain and beets, it must return high dividends. However, the leeching of plant food by heavy spring run-offs must represent a heavy fertilizer replacement cost. Erosion by water is not one of our common problems, but it is well to consider the damage by wind; also to appreciate the response obtainable by adding only comparatively small amounts of manure and fertilizer to these prairie soils.—F. R. T.

People You Should Know

JOHN LANDYSHEFF

John Landysheff came to work for the Canadian Sugar Factories Limited in 1928.

John was born and educated in Russia, but has been a naturalized Canadian since 1931. He has a status of Chemical Engineer and is a Fellow of the Chemical Engineering Institute of Canada and is now Chief Chemist at Raymond.

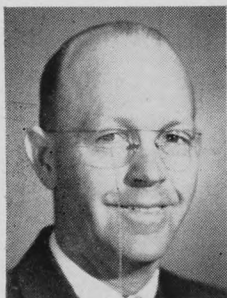


He began his career in sugar refining in Russia but after the Red Revolution left Russia at the end of 1920 and in 1925 immigrated to Canada from Northern Manchuria. He served in the Russian Imperial Army from September, 1914, to December, 1924, and was demobilized as Captain in the Light Field Artillery.

During World War II he served as officer in the Raymond squadron Air Cadets. He has always been an active member of the Canadian Legion and is now First Vice-President and Secretary of the Building Committee. He has been especially active in the St. John's Ambulance Association, being holder of Instructor's Certificate, and conducting first aid classes for a number of years at the Factory and in the Town. John was always active in the war services and particularly with respect to various health services.

He is married and has two children. His wife is a native of Russia, having come to Canada from Manchuria shortly after John's arrival. His main hobbies are gardening and chess. Besides running down leaks throughout the mill, he enjoys writing the factory review.

R. F. GIBB, DRAFTSMAN



Ross, as he is generally known, was born in the Sugar City of Raymond in the year 1906, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Gibb, well known old timers, J. Frank Gibb being the field-man at Hillspring for many years.

His public and high school training was received at Hillspring and Cardston, and he later qualified as a school teacher at the Calgary Normal School. Subsequent to this, he completed courses in drafting chemistry.

Ross forsook the teaching profession in 1927 to become the Laboratory Clerk for the Canadian Sugar Factories

Ltd., Raymond, and became assistant chemist in 1929. This and promoting beet sugar sales in the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan during the years 1930-37-38 was his work until being transferred to Picture Butte in 1936. Here he took up employment with the Engineering Department and was also assistant to Forrest Rogers, at that time Chief Chemist. In 1937 he took over as Chief Chemist, where he served until his transfer to Taber.

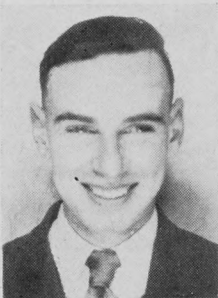
At Taber Ross is with the Engineering Department and it is his chief concern to thoroughly check all plans and specifications before they are handed to the builders.

Prior to his transfer, Ross was active both in church and public life. He served as Justice of the Peace, a position in which he is still active. He also served for eleven years as treasurer of the Picture Butte Credit Union, and past President of the Picture Butte Home and School Association. He is by no means inactive in Taber, as at the present time he is Scout Master of the First Taber Troop and Vice-President of the Lethbridge District Scout Council. Recently he became 1st Counselor in the Taber 1st Ward Bishopric.

Ross enjoys tennis and a good game of chess. He is married and has four children. His wife, who is a well known and talented pianist, is now L.D.S. Church organist.

PETER WRIGHT

Peter Wright was appointed chemist at Picture Butte at the time Ross Gibb was transferred to Taber.



Peter began working for our Company in 1929 and has worked at intervals and during campaign since that time.

He was born in Peterborough, Northants, England, and educated at Deacon's High School, Technical College and matriculated with Cambridge University Certificate.

He was employed as Chemist at the Celta Silk Manufacturing Company, who manufacture artificial silk, and with the Central Sugar Company at Peterborough, which later became a unit of the British Sugar Corporation.

In late years he has been operating a farm in Northern Alberta. He is now permanently located at Picture Butte as Chemist.

IVL SCOTT, ENGINEER

Ivyl, or "Scotty" as he is sometimes known, the second son of B. Y. Scott of Lethbridge and the late Herman J. Scott, well known old timer of the East Taber district, was born in Taber during the year 1923.



The Scott family moved to the city of Lethbridge in 1929 where Ivyl received both his public and high school training. He is a graduate in Civil Engineering of the University of Alberta and commenced his building and construction work with the Department of Transport prior to his joining the staff of the Canadian Sugar Factories in January, 1947.

Ivyl is the resident engineer at the Taber Factory, and the layout of the buildings and appurtenances is his main responsibility. His favorite sport is skiing and it is rumored that one of his ambitions is to get out of Taber every weekend.

MILO C. VANCE



Milo came to this country in his youth with his parents and is what you might call a pioneer as he has lived on a farm near Raymond most of his life. He completed his high school here, finishing at the Calgary Normal School with additional courses at the University of Alberta, B.Y.U., Provo, and last winter he was at the U.S. Agricultural College at Logan. He also spent two years in Germany, 1930-32, as a missionary. Most of the time since then has been spent teaching school at Raymond and the surrounding districts. He gave up the teaching profession a few years back and went into farming on his own farm at Brooks where he still owns land.

He entered the employ of the Canadian Sugar Factories Limited in September, 1947, as an assistant fieldman in the Coaldale district.

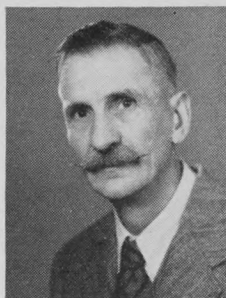
He married Jennie Hinman of Cardston and their primary accomplishment is five boys.

His chief hobby is music and he no doubt has hidden hopes of leading a symphony or a 100-voice choir. In any case, he is very much interested in choral singing, a diligent Sunday School worker and an enthusiast as to the possibilities of agriculture in Southern Alberta.

PERCY WARR

The staff at the Raymond plant felt very keenly the loss of Percy Warr when he was retired at the end of last campaign.

Percy has always been a very popular member of the Operating Department due to his high type of manhood and his ability to see the other man's viewpoint. He has been with the Company since the first year Picture Butte started in 1936 when he commenced work as a First Class Engineer. He was later transferred to Raymond and although his home was always in Lethbridge, he was considered a Raymond man.



He finds it difficult to be content as a retired farmer on an acre lot in Victoria so he is now back in Lethbridge and ready for anything that might come along. He is still very active and in his case he is just as young as he feels, and had not "Father Time" kept efficient records and caught up with him, he would still be capable of many years of activity.

News and Views from Here and There



A 6-ft. Seaman Triple Tiller powered by a Waukesha motor, pictured above, has been used extensively by E. N. Francis in his seed bed preparations this year. This machine leaves a fine mulch which is paramount in beet seed preparation. It is now understood that this machine is available with the power take-off.

Construction on the new Taber water system is now nearing completion. Plans and further development on the sewer are pending until it is completed.

There is increased interest in the growing of the white and yellow hybrid corn. The several test plots in the Taber district are showing up very well and it is quite possible that it will soon be grown on a commercial basis.

Part of the St. Mary's Development scheme north of Taber is now being surveyed. The possibility of Horse Fly Lake being used as a storage basin is also under consideration.

Rural electrification has come to the Taber-Barnwell district these past few years. Power lines have extended to the Cranford and Coal-dale areas. Negotiations are also under way to electrify the Vauxhall district.

E. N. Francis, well known farmer of the Taber district, has been experimenting with a 50 unit sprinkling system. This system has a two-acre coverage on one moving and will give a two-inch application of moisture in five hours.

The Government has established a Dominion Experimental Sub-Station at Taber to study the duty of water under different rotations varying in amounts of fertilizer and manurial treatments. The Horticultural Department is also experimenting in new crops that might be suitable for this area.

2, 4-D has been used extensively in the Taber area both as a spray and dust. Many grain fields have been treated with this killing agent, and the success experienced is gratifying.

Double platforms have been installed on the Barnwell and Reliance beet pilers. This will increase efficiency, alleviate waits, assuring prompt unloading for the grower.

L. N. I. D. GLIMPSES

Mike Vukanovitch was seen driving a new Chevrolet truck, which will speed up the delivery of his 60 acres of sugar beets this fall. Mike says good crops require good equipment and good machines stop delays and increases profits.

Three new I.H.C. Mechanical toppers arrived in Picture Butte for fall topping. Watson's still don't know who the lucky growers are going to be, but by the inquiries it won't be long before they are placed.

Walter Chervenka is still spreading his wings. In 1945 he did very well with one farm. Last year he made it two and now he has four with over one hundred acres of sugar beets to look after. Walter has been of late thinking Shakespeare's "To do or not to do, that is the question". Whether to buy a topping machine or get some more displaced persons. Walter says draftment don't make good beet workers.

Viggo Hage, wife and daughter are expected back today by air after a three-month holiday. Viggo will very likely have a Danish sugar beet story to tell.

The Oliver brothers, Dave and Clure, are still holidaying in Ontario. Their 100 acres of sugar beets are being well looked after by the Brooks and Nair understudies. The boys should return shortly or it will be a rather disappointing harvest on the receiving pilers without Dave's Mark Twain Gang Buster comments.

Chinook Agricultural Department Visits Alberta

Representatives from Montana, visiting Alberta Sugar Beet Field Day, included Mr. R. M. Cannon, Agricultural Superintendent; Mr. Campbell from Belle Fourche, South Dakota; Mr. Moore from Great Falls; Mr. Atwater from Conrad; Mr. Kidman from Chinook; Mr. Olson from Idaho Falls; Mr. Jacobs from Glasgow.

On the day following the Field Day the visitors from the Chinook Factory districts were taken over by the Sugar Company officials and a complete survey of the whole beet growing area was carried out.

The group visited the Lethbridge Northern area in the morning, including Coaldale. A very excellent lunch was served at the Taber Factory lunchroom by Mr. Jones and his helpers. The party was then shown the various methods of beet rotations carried on in the Taber district with particular attention to the sweet-clover program in the Cranford area. The crop history of Frank Otrahalek's farm was reviewed in detail and the exact procedure discussed.

The party then proceeded back to Lethbridge and on to Raymond and at the conclusion of their visit were much enthused about Alberta's beets and very complimentary to Alberta Beet Farmers. They seemed highly pleased with the two days' visit.

The Company officials wished them a pleasant trip home and a welcome on any return occasion whenever they found it convenient.

"I've been watching that mechanic for the last 15 minutes. There's a man who really knows his business. He didn't spill a drop of oil on the ground. He put the hood down gently, fastened it securely, and left no fingerprints on it. He wiped his hands on a clean tissue before opening the door, spread a clean cloth over the upholstery, meshed the gears noiselessly, and drove carefully out into the street."

"Yeah. That's his own car."

The Sugar Factory Picnic

The picnic of employees of the three factories was held on Saturday, August 28, at Henderson Park in Lethbridge.

There were around 500 people in attendance and it was quite evident that everyone present had a very enjoyable time. Reunion groups from Raymond, Picture Butte and Taber gathered for the picnic lunch at the noon period. The afternoon was spent in the play grounds in the park and the ball park opposite. Some played in the park or boated while the majority of the group assembled in the grand stand and watched the afternoon sports. Races and track events were carried forward with Kay Redd as loud speaker commentator; the balance of the time being spent in softball between the teams of the three plants.

Taber factory crew really ran away with the sports, taking both the tug-of-war and softball contests, after Picture Butte had vanquished the Raymond boys. The races from age four, to the free-for-alls, were well divided; the prizes provided by the Company and Raymond Factory Union, were generous and well chosen, and the many girls, boys and men all showed good sportsmanship, win or lose.

The guessing contests were heavily patronized. For the women, a jar of sugar contained 1782 half-teaspoons. One hundred and twenty-three guesses were made; the winner, Myra Evanson, Taber, who guessed 1777 for an electric iron.

Men guessed on number of nails in a glass jar. One hundred and thirty-two, estimates were topped by H. Boist, Taber, whose guess was 1821 nails against the count of 1829, he went home with an electric razor.

The day was enhanced for both young and older people by a profusion of refreshments enjoyed as a contribution from the Company. This indeed made it a gala affair for most everyone. The comment was made, that in no time of history were more refreshments absorbed per square foot of boy, than occurred at this picnic.

All committees are congratulated on the successful arrangements made. It is certain that these picnics lend towards a better understanding and acquaintance of all employees.

Mention of all those who assisted in making this a success would be difficult and the Company's appreciation is extended to all.

The Executive Committee from Raymond as host factory included F. W. Gardener, chairman; L. B. Duncombe and C. R. Bennett. Ray Finley and R. S. O'Brien represented Picture Butte factory; Ross Gibb and Ernie Meyers, Taber factory.

SILVER SUNSHINE

Published by the Agricultural Department
CANADIAN SUGAR FACTORIES LIMITED

F. R. Taylor
Editor

E. Bennion
Assistant Editor

J. G. Snow
Production Manager

INDEX

	PAGE
Fall and Summer Preparation—Editorial	1
Why Not 6000 lbs. of Sugar Per Acre on Your Farm In 1949?—T. Geo. Wood	2
The 1948 Crop	4
Too Soon—Just Right—To Irrigate—M. C. Vance	5
New Developments in Agricultural Research—F. H. Peto	6
Irrigation By Sprinkling	8
Spring Mechanization—E. Bennion	10
They Have Chosen Canada—J. G. Snow	14
The Farm Home—R. B. Evanson	16
Save the Sugar—A. W. Hill	18
Hubam Clover in Alberta	19
Twice Flooded Lands Yield 19 Tons of Beets per Acre	20
Soil the Essence of Life	21
The Machine Harvest Prospectus—W. G. Smith	22
Nitrogen Must Be Added to Poned Fields	24
There's Something About a Fresh Turned Furrow	25
The Dirt and Trash Problem—F. R. Taylor	26
600 Attend Sugar Beet Field Day, Experimental Station	28
People You Should Know	30
News and Views From Here and There	33

Cover Picture — Courtesy A. W. Luehr, Taber.

Looking To The Future

The air view showing the Taber Sugar Factory in the making, presages a milestone of considerable importance to Southern Alberta's agriculture. This factory, now in the second year of construction, will require at least one more full year to complete.

Every detail of design has been engineered to the very highest degree of modern Sugar Factory standards. It is a reinforced concrete structure capable of almost perpetual continuity.

This plant is projected to provide ample manufacturing capacity to handle the sugar demands of the prairie market, and its beet supply will go along with irrigation extensions now in process of development.

FALL EDITION
1948

CANADIAN SUGAR FACTORIES Ltd.
Raymond, Alberta

